with the financing of the relief expenditure.

(d) The long term steps for providing drinking water supply in identified problem villages are taken up under the normal Plan programme of Centrally Sponsored Accelerated Rural Water Supply, State Sector Minimum Needs Progamme, Mini Mission Project Areas, Sub Missions under the National Drinking Water Mission etc. As on 1-4-1990, there were 146 'No Source' problem villages which have spilled over from 7th Plan to 8th Plan in Madhya Pradesh. Out of this, 26 problem villages have already been covered in 1990-91 (upto 30th June). All other problem villages have been covered fully or partially. The residual 'no source' problem villages will be covered with safe drinking water facilities by 31-3-1991. Out of allocation of Rs. 25.47 crores under ARWSP for 1990-91, Rs. 14.735 crores including Rs. 2 crores released for drinking water supply for tribal area project in Bastar district have already been released. About Rs. 2.75 crores is likely to be made available for the Mini Mission Project Areas in Jhabua and Shahdol in 1990-91 in addition to Rs. 10 lakhs already released for mini mission project arta in Rajgarh.

**Statutory Welfare Fund for construction workers**

*334. SHRIMATI KAMLA SINHA: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) wheher it is a fact that the Government of Kerala have constituted a statutory welfare fund for the benefit of their fifteen lakh construction workers;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether Government also propose to constitute such a statutory welfare fund for the benefit of construction workers in the country; if so, by when?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND WELFARE (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) to (c) A scheme drawn up in Kerala under the Kerala Construction Workers Welfare Fund Act, Fund to provide the following benefits to the members of the fund:

(i) payment of pension to members of the Fund;

(ii) payment of immediate assistance in case of accidents;

(iii) sanctioning of loans and advances for construction or purchase of house;

(iv) meeting medical expenses;

(v) payment of financial assistance for education and marriage of children;

(vi) payment of scholarships to children; and

(vii) payment of maternity benefit to women members.

2. The question of a Central legislation for construction workers which may provide *inter-alia* constitution of welfare fund also is under examination.

**Setting up of a Corporation for new rail lines in Tamil Nadu**

*335. SHRI S. MADHAVAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether anp discussions have been held recently with the Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu with a view to promote a Corporation for taking up the new railway lines in Tamilnadu;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) the details of the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) to (c) A suggestion was made to the